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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Administration
Washington, D. C.

July 9, 1942

CHEESE GRADERS' MEMORANDUM NO. 5

To: All Cheese Graders

From: Rob R. Slocum, Dairy and Poultry Branch - AMA

Subject: Provisions of Announcement FSC-758 Covering the Purchase of American Cheddar Cheese by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation.

Attached hereto is a copy of Announcement FSC-758, dated July 2, 1942, and covering the purchase of American cheddar cheese. This announcement supersedes Announcement FSC-415.

While the general provisions under which cheese will be purchased under Announcement FSC-758 are much the same as under Announcement FSC-415, there are certain differences which are important and to which it is desirable to call the grader's attention. These are mentioned below under the headings under which they occur in the announcement:

I. How to submit an offer. It is no longer necessary to specify whether the cheese offered is white or colored.

Two grades of cheese, U. S. No. 1 and U. S. No. 2-A, may be offered.

Changes have been made in the types of containers that are acceptable. Some containers have been eliminated and new types of containers have been added.

In offering cheese, it is necessary that the dates be given on which the cheese will be ready for inspection and the dates on which it will be ready for delivery.

II. Period for submission of offers. Offers may be submitted under this announcement so as to be received by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation not later than 2:00 p.m. (c.w.t.) on Monday of each week from July 6, 1942 through December 31, 1942.

III. Quantity. Maximum carlots are preferred but cheese may be offered in multiples of not less than a minimum carlot. On delivery, a tolerance of 3 percent in pounds will be permitted on the total quantity contracted, provided no carlot shipments are less than minimum carlots.

IV. Quality. All cheese shall be at least 10 days old at the time of inspection (or shall be at least 7 days old at the time of inspection and be in proper condition for grading as determined by the grader). The grader's attention is called to Cheese Graders' Memorandum No. 3, dated May 5, 1942, which deals with this particular subject.

Cheese may be offered as U. S. No. 1 or U. S. No. 2-A, but mixed carlots of these two grades will not be accepted.

Attached hereto is a mimeographed statement issued June 30, 1942 of the Quality Requirements for American Cheddar Cheese of the Grades of U. S. No. 1 and U. S. No. 2-A as set forth in Announcement FSC-758. These requirements should be carefully studied by the grader in order that they may be correctly applied to the cheese purchased under this announcement. In particular, it will be noted that the quality requirements for U. S. No. 2-A American cheddar cheese are somewhat more restrictive than the requirements for U. S. No. 2 American cheddar cheese.

The grader's attention is called to the fact that in the U. S. No. 1 cheese, slightly defective flavors are permitted, such as slightly feed, very slightly bitter, very slightly utensil, very slightly acidy or very slightly weedy. The cheese may show scattered sweet holes or mechanical openings. It may show very slight defects in body, such as very slightly weak, very slightly curdy, very slightly pasty or very slightly corky.

The color shall be fairly uniform but not dull or faded.

The quality requirements for U. S. No. 2-A American cheddar cheese are somewhat lower and the grader's attention is called to the following points: it may possess such objectionable flavors as slightly bitter, slightly utensil, slightly acidy, slightly weedy, slightly barny and slightly old milk; the body and texture may be close or medium close and may be slightly weak, slightly pasty, slightly curdy, slightly mealy or slightly corky; it may show scattered sweet holes, scattered gas holes and scattered mechanical openings.

The purchase of two grades of American cheddar cheese by FSCC will entail additional grading problems. However, if the graders will carefully study the specifications as set forth in the announcement, we believe uniform grading can be achieved. When graders, in their regular grading of cheese for the U. S. No. 1 grade, reject any vats for that grade, it would be desirable for the grader to show on the grading memorandum the grade of rejected vats indicating those that would be accepted as U. S. No. 2-A and those that are below U. S. No. 2-A. By following this procedure, it will be helpful to contractors who may later wish to submit offers on the basis of U. S. No. 2-A quality.

V. Moisture and price basis. Note that under certain conditions, a payment of 1.35 cents per pound in addition to the bid price will be made for cheese packed in types E or E-1 containers.

VI. Inspection. Note carefully that all cheese offered shall be ready for inspection on the date indicated in the offer which shall be not later than the third Monday after the Monday for which the offer was submitted.

As usual, the announcement provides that the seller must furnish at his expense grading and weight certificates of the Agricultural Marketing Administration.

VII. Packaging and Marking. Note particularly that in addition to other specified marking requirements, all cheese delivered to FSCC shall be marked with the grade.

Attached to the announcement is a copy of FSC-1714 entitled "Cheese Container Specifications" also a Special Notice to Cheese Vendors, dated July 2, 1942, dealing with this subject. The type D-3 box and the old type E containers have been eliminated entirely for the packaging of cheese under this announcement. Offers of cheese packed in the type A-1 box will be received until August 1, 1942, if the cheese is offered for inspection not later than August 17, after which the use of that type of container will also be discontinued. A wire bound octagonal box for one cheddar or twin has been included as type C-2, and type E and E-1 boxes made of fibre board have been added.

It is important that cheese containers be marked with only one weight, preferably to be stamped or stenciled, and in any event to be applied in such a manner that the correct weights will be clearly legible upon arrival at destination.

VIII. Delivery. Particular attention is directed to the fact that delivery of the cheese accepted will be taken by FSCC at its option within 30 days after the applicable delivery date specified in the offer.

Because of the provisions of Announcement FSC-758, permitting the offering of two grades of cheese, and because of the slightly modified language used in describing the specifications for U. S. No. 1 cheese and the new specifications of U. S. No. 2-A cheese, as well as other particulars in which this announcement differs from its predecessor, it is essential that graders study the provisions of the announcement and of this instruction carefully.

Should there be any points about which the grader is in doubt, he should immediately get in touch with his supervisor or, if necessary, contact this office.

Rob R. Slocum

